You're Not Alone

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Summary: On Tori's audition day at Hollywood Arts, she receives a text from an unknown person, and things progress from there. Who is

this person? and will they become a good text buddies?

1. Chapter 1

(FRIDAY 6:30 AM)

** {Tori POV}**

I wake up to the sound of my phone buzzing. I throw my right hand to the direction of the nightstand searching for it. It's Friday morning, and today I'm skipping school to audition for Hollywood Arts High School. It's my sister's school, Trina. And it's one of the best performance schools in L.A.

Two days ago my parents and I went to Trina's big showcase, and my sister read about some Chinese herb product designed to help to make people sing better, and of course Trina tried the herbs and she had an allergic reaction to it. And I was the only one who knew the lyrics to the song that Andre wrote. And it got me into this embarrassing situation where i had to perform instead of Trina.

I knew that I had a good voice and I can hold a note much better than Trina, but I never imagined myself to stand on a stage and sing in front of random people. And to be honest It was amazing!, I wanted to do it again and again.

Lane and the principle of the school were very impressed with my performance so they told me to audition for the school. I never thought about joining Trina's school at all. I mean the kids in this school are super talented, and I'm just a normal kid. I never saw myself as a performer or as a talented person.

Now I'm lying on my bed too lazy to even find my phone to see who

texted me. _if I can just find it._
>"Honey wake up" my mum knocks softly on my bedroom door.
"I'm
uuup" I said yawning. I blink my eyes trying to open them_. Okay I
have to get ready_. So I push myself of the bed and I snatch my phone
to see who texted me.

"**DON'T FORGET MY COFFEE**" (6:30 AM)
>What? Its unsaved number, who the hell is this person? . I'm
in a good mood so, I start typing.

"How do you drink your coffee?, and who's this_?_" (6:34 AM)

I type a quick reply and go to shower. I take my time showering since I'm up early and I still have an hour untill the school starts.

"GET OUT!" Trina's voice is so loud I swear I felt an earthquake.

>"Use yours!" I shout back.
"MINE IS BROKEN" now she is knocking loudly on the door.

Ugh!

"You know there is no need to shout, just gimme a minute" >I tug my towel around me, and open the door to find an angry beast staring back at me.

"MOVE IT" she pushes me to the side and shut the door behind her.

God!

I make my way to my room and start looking for clothes to change.

>I settle on a white tank with black jacket and dark bottom jeans. I start wearing my clothes when I hear my phone buzzes, so I grab my phone and read the text.

"**WHO THE FUCK IS THIS**?" (6:34 AM)
>"IF YOU DON'T REPLY RIGHT NOW, I WILL FIND YOU AND I WILL
KILL YOU" (6:36 AM)

"I won't tell you who I am_" $_(7:01 \text{ AM})$. >I was about to text my name but I'm really scared right now If I tell this person knows my name they might find me and kill me in my sleep.

"**I SAID YOUR NAME, NOW**" (7:01 AM)

"Your name in exchange of mine" (7:02 AM) > if this person is gonna kill me, might as well know their name so I can write it down for my parents to find it.

"**NO**!" (7:02 AM) _I have to get ready for my audition._

"Listen, you have the wrong number, okay? I really need to get ready to school, so just stop texting me" (7:05 AM) I throw my phone on my bed and I start putting some stuff I need in my bag. >It starts buzzing again, seriously!

"_Hey cute girl!, you nervous about your audition_?" â€"Andre (7:06 AM) I smile at his text, he came over to my house last night and helped me with rehearsing my audition song. we stayed up till 2 AM

just going over the song.

- "You have no idea! I'm scared they won't accept me" (7:07 AM)
- "**Which school**?" (7:07 AM) I can't believe this person!, maybe I shouldn't have mentioned anything about school. Oh man, what if this person is psycho and into murdering girls!.
- "That's personal, and I won't tell you anything so please stop texting me" (7:08 AM)
- "_Don't worry, you're special, you belong at this school_" -Andre
 (7:08 AM)
- "Thank you Andre, see you there" (7:09 AM)
- I take one look at myself in the mirror and I put my phone in my back pocket, and then I head down for breakfast.
- >Trina is still in the bathroom singing-screaming on top of her lungs, I have no idea how my ears hasn't bleed all these years.

 "Morning baby girl" my dad greets me and I place a kiss on his cheek. And I do the same to mum.
- >"Are you nervous about today?" mum asks as she puts two waffles in my plate.
"A little, I just hope that I won't embarrass myself" I pour some coffee for me and for dad.
- >"Nonsense, you will blow them away, baby girl" he smiles at
 me.
br>"Thanks Papi" I smile back at him, and I start digging in my
 food.

Minutes later, Trina comes down the stairs with heavy footsteps. She doesn't look like a beast anymore. She has her phone in her hands and typing really fast, I worry the screen might break. She's mumbling something.

- " $\hat{a} \in |$ I can't believe you, you ass $\hat{a} \in |$, no you did not just say that $\hat{a} \in |$, ugh!"
- "What is wrong baby gi.."
- "He just broke up with me!" she screams at dad.
- "David?" I ask, oh man I wish I didn't ask.
- "YES DAVID" Her eyes are so wide, I don't think anyone can open their eyes that big.
- "But why?" I just had to open my mouth again. What a stupid question, there's like a million reason why he should break up with her.
- "Cuz I went on a date with his friend" she shrugs.
- I look at my parents, we are all thinking about the same thing. "You do know that you are not supposed to go on a date with someone other than the person that you are dating, right?" mum tells her.
- "Says who? You know what, never mind, I'm going to school now" she is making her way to the door when dad stops her.
- "Wait, you are supposed to take Tori to school with you"

"Nooo" I whine, why does it has to be Trina?

"Your audition is at 8:15, so if you want to make it on time you have to go with her before the traffic start" Dad answers and takes a sip of his coffee.

"Fine, I will just go grab my bag" I make my way to the stairs walking like a zombie.

"One minute, and I'm leaving, I don't care if you are in the car or not" and like that she's out of the house. I run to my bedroom, grab my bag and quickly head down to the door.

She wasn't kidding, I got in the passenger seat in time, I might have missed her if I didn't run.

Five minutes in to the ride, we stop at a red light. Trina gets her lip gloss out and she starts working on her lips. "Trina! the light is green!" one of cars starts honking in order for us to drive.

"ALRIGHT!" Trina shouts from her window. What does she has to be my sister?

We arrive to Hollywood Arts safe and sound, I hate riding with her. She parks the car, get out and head to school, leaving me alone standing in the parking lot. It's like she doesn't even know me. How am I supposed to find my way to the theater?

I spot a guy standing next a boy wearing glasses, holding a toy in his hand. So I make way to them. The boy sees me, and suddenly his eyes get wider. I stop and look behind me, there's no one there. The guy next to him looks at me now and smile.

"Um.. Hi, my name is Tori Vega and I'm new here …"

"Hi Tori, I'm Beck and this is Robbie and Rex" he said gesturing to the boy with the glasses and the toy. Wait, did he just introduce the toy?

"What's up cheekbones?" the toy, Rex, asks me.

"What?"

Beck chuckles "Just ignore him"

"How can I get to the theater? I have an audition at 8:15 and its 8:07" looking at my watch, I don't have much time.

"Come on, we will show you where it is" he gesture for me to follow him.

We enter the school, and WOW! It's CRAZY here. Everyone is dancing and playing different instruments in the hallways, it's like a party around here, and everyone looks happy unlike at Sherwood High School. Everything looks colorful including the lockers.

"This place is weird" I say looking around amazed.

"You haven't seen anything yet" Beck says smiling. He's got a nice smile. "Come on, we are almost there" he pats me on the back to continue to walk.

We pass Trina on our way, she is arguing with her boyfriend, I mean ex-boyfriend. David looks pissed off at her. "Stop STALKING me! We are OVER" David yells at her.

God, I hope they don't find out that she's my sister.

"Trina is single again, wait .. Trina Vega, .. Tori Vega .. " Robbie mumbles to Rex. They are going to find out.

"Are you related to Trina?" he turns to me_. Great._

"Yeah kinda hah, she's my older ... Sister" Robbie and Rex gasp, am not surprised, that's every ones reaction when they find out.

"Yo Tori!" I turn around and I see Andre running toward me, I'm so happy to see someone I know other than my beasty sister

"Hi guys, I see you met Tori, she's gonna be the new girl this year"

"I really hope so" I say scratching the back of my neck.

"Come on, let's go, it's time. See you guys fourth period" Andre grabs my hand drags me inside a black room. We're standing now back stage, I think.

"Now girl, when they call your name, you stand on the stage and do your thing. I will be behind you playing the piano" he turns me around so that I am now facing the stage. This is all happening too fast. "Good luck girl". He pats my back and makes his way to the piano.

"Victoria Vega?" I hear my name on the speakers. I look at Andre and he motions for me to go. I take a deep breath and I make my way to the stage. I face three people sitting on chair these are the ones who will decide if am in or not. I spot Lane sitting with them. He smiles and mouths a good luck for me.

"Hi, my name is Tori, and I will be singing Make It Shine" I smile nervously and place my hands around the microphone and start singing.

Here I am, once again
>Feeling lost but now and then

br>I breath it in to let it go
>And you don't know
where you are now
>Or what it would come to

br>if only somebody could hear
>When you figure out how>

your lost in the moment
>you disappear

You don't have to be afraid to put your dream in action >you're never gonna fade you'll be the main attraction
>br>Not a fantasy >Just remember me
br>when it turns ...

"That's enough" one of the judges says, a women. "if you may, please wait for us in the back, and we will let you know our decision" She fake smile at me, and turns to talk to Lane and the other judge. I turn around to look at Andre and he has a confused look on his face.

We both head back stage, i feel my heart bounding so fast "They didn't let me finish the song, that's bad, right?" my hands are shaking now.

>"i..i.. don't know, listen, you did great, okay?" he leads me to sit
on a black box. i haven't realized that's my whole body is shaking
now. I hide my head between my knees.

"I don't want to go back to Sherwood, no no .." i whisper.

Before Andre can say anything, I feel my phone buzz in my pocket. I take it out and look to see who texted me, I open my password, and my face still buried between my knees.

"**This is not over, you won't get rid of me that easily**" (8:25 AM)

I read the text three times, _okay now I have a stalker._

_"_Seriously, STOP" (8:27 AM)

"Who are you texting?" Andre sits next to me.

"uh... no one important" I put my phone back in my pocket.

then I hear footsteps approaching our way. I look up and i see Lane and he says.

"Tori ... You are in!"

"I am?" I blink at Lane. Andre is doing a little dance.

"You are in, Welcome to Hollywood Arts" He says smiling, he vision is block because Andre is hugging me, and my face is against his shoulder.

"Congrats Tori!" he pulls back. and I smile at him. _YES!_

"You will start school on Monday, but you are welcome to hang around here today" Lane pulls a lotion from his pocket and start rubbing his hands.

"Thanks Lane"

"Come on, I wanna show you around the school" he grabs my wrest, and takes out of the theater.

He showed me where the bathrooms first, cuz I had to pee. And then he showed me the cafeteria, his locker, and the janitor's closet. when we finish the tour, we make our way back to the cafeteria when a red haired girl stopped us.

"Oh, Hey Andre" she stands really close to us and wave.

"Hi red, this is Tori" I wave back awkwardly.

"Hii Tori!, oh you are Tori Vega!" she start clapping. "you were really good on that showcase" then she leaves. Just like that.

I stare back at her, "Well, That's Cat. she's wasn't being rude, she's just Cat" _Okay, what?_

"Why do you call your friend a cat?"

"Oh no girl, that's her name ... Cat" he shrugs.

"She seems nice" _and really beautiful. _"Wait, .. how did she know my name?"

"haven't you checked your slap page?"

"Slap what?"

"oh right, you are new, ... will everyone here has a blog on TheSlap, where you can write about stuff that happened in your day, video profiles, music .."

"And i still don't know how Cat knew my name"

"Oh well, Sinjin posted your showcase video on TheSlap" _I'm on TheSlap._

"My class will start in 5, meet me by the janitor's closet after the third period, see ya" I nod, and go sit on one of the tables in the cafeteria. Andre, is taking me to his fourth period to meet his friends, and his favorite teacher. I take a deep breath and let out, it's a beautiful day.

I pull out my phone and i send a text to Mum, letting her know that now, i am student at Hollywood Arts. she reply quickly, telling me that she's proud of me. I smile at her text, it's been a long time since my parents said that to me.

at Sherwod, i was the kid who stayed away from everyone, and stayed real close to the teachers. I hated being a student there. I had a friend named Amy, we used to be really close, and then when i told her that i have feelings for her, she told everyone that i tried to get into her pants and i was always stalking her.

Ever since that day, i had no friends.

My parents are okay with me being into girls, they never stopped supporting me. but i felt really hurt, when my friends rejected me. Especially by Amy.

I notice there's unread message on my phone, so i open it.

"**How's school?**" (9:57 AM)

I start looking around, is this person actually stalking me?

"My dad is a cop" (10:12 AM)

"**Relax, i am not gonna kill you, i'm bored**" (10:13 AM)

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"Text someone else" (10:14 AM)
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- "**NO**" (10:14 AM)
- "**You know, i go to school too, FYI**" (10:14 AM)
- "**So ...**" (10:15 AM) not gonna lie, knowing this person goes to school, makes me feel a little relaxed.
- "So ... " (10:15 AM)
- "**You haven't answered my question, how's school?**" (10:16 AM)
- I ignore the text, but then after 2 minutes i receive another.
- "**With two pieces of sugar**" (10:17 AM) i stare at the text, and text back.
- "Excuse me?" (10:19 AM)
- "**That's how i drink my coffee, you asked me****, now tell something about you**" (10:21 AM)
- "Maybe you should pay attention to your class" (10:23 AM)
- "**This class is boring, entertain me**" (10:24 AM)
- "School is fine, what are you studying now?" (10:25 AM) i don't why i feel the urge to text this person back.
- "**History, told you it's boring**" (10:29 AM)
- "**What about you?**" (10:29 AM) if i tell this person that i am transforming school, there will lots of questions.
- "English, how old are you?" (10:32 AM) i'm suddenly interested in this person, i wait for about 20 minutes until i receive another text.
- "**17**" (10:54 AM)
- "**I suspect you are 17 too?**" (10:54 AM) i better go to the janitor's closet to meet Andre.
- "Yeah, sex?" (10:56 AM) I grab my stuff and start heading inside school.
- "**Woah, at least dinner first?**" (10:57 AM) _oh my god!, that's not what i meant!. _i feel my cheeks burning. i type quickly.
- "I meant as if you are a girl or a boy!, i didn't mean sex! so sorry" (10:58 AM)
- "**Haha, i know what you meant, just wanted to tease you** " (10:58 AM)
- "What got you smiling like that?" Andre says, he tries to take a look at my phone, my cheeks are hurting from smiling like an

idiot.

"NOTHING!" i hug my phone tightly.

"Okay, let's go to class" he pulls me away from the janitor's closet. _when did i get there?_

"**Okay, we say our _"sex"_ together at the count of three, ready?**"
(10:59 AM)

"Okay, ready" (10:59) i send the text.

1

"Tori, you already met Beck, Robbie, Rex .. " we enter a classroom.

2

" .. And Cat, and this is .."

_3 _

"Jade"

"**Girl**" (11:00 AM)

"Girl" (11:00 AM)

2. Chapter 2

Author's notes: Just a little reminder of who is texting who, **Jade**, Tori. / They don't know they are texting each other.

And I want you guys to know, that English is my second language, so ... if you spot any grammar mistakes, just ignore them.

* * *

>{Jade POV}

I gaze at my phone like it's the most intersting thing in the world. I mean yes it's new, I bought it last night, and I lost all my contacts. I hate when that happens. But the only number that I remember is Cat's. She has the easiest phone number to memorize, I mean the girl forgets number 3 when she counts, so her parents made sure that her phone number was easy for her to remember it. It took her a week to memorize it.

So this morning, while driving to school, I tried texting Cat, reminding her to buy me coffee, but I accidently texted a complete stranger. We argued at first, I was demanding to know the identity of that person. But later on, I texted back in my history class, _cuz it was boring and half of the class were in a deep sleep. _And texting a complete stranger wasn't bad, i really enjoyed it. Then by the end of the class, it turned out i was texting a girl, same as my age.

"Yo Jade" Andre is waving his hand in front of my face, trying to get my attention. I heard him the first time he said my name, but I was

too busy staring at the text I just got.

- "Jaaaade" he snapped his finger close to my left ear.
- "WHAT?" I snap at him. Andre and some girl was standing next to him, jumped. The girl almost dropped her phone. _Pathetic_.
- "Uh.. Jade this is Tori Vega, Tori .. this is Jade West" He gesture between us. The girl, who I didn't quite hear what her name was, holds her hand to shake. I take a close look at her. She's a little taller than me, long legs, skinny, brown eyes and cheekbones. _Yup, I don't like her. _

I notice her hand is still waiting to shake mine.

- "NO!" I turn around and sit in my chair in the middle, next to Cat. she's eating candy from her bra. Andre and the girl sit in the front, along with Beck and Robbie. I check my phone to see if there's any messages, but there is none. _Should I text ?_
- "All right class" Sikowitz says climbing into the classroom through the window, his bald head is covered with leaves, he shakes his head like a dog and then he writes something on the white board.
- "Robbie, read what i just wrote" Sikowatz says, then he pulls coconut from his bag.
- ""Improv is like a fine Cheese, but not really" Rex reads.
- "I was gonna say that!" Robbie slams his thigh.
- "Yaaay, I love Cheese" Cat claps her hands joyfully. I glare at her really hard and she shuts up.
- "Can anyone tell me what that means?" Sikowatz points to the white board, then he start sucking oh his coconut. No one seems to know the answer.
- "What about you Jade?" He jumps with his bare feet to the front. The girl lows her head, and stares at his hairy feet.
- "What about me?" I say in a bored tone, rolling my eyes.
- "Can you tell the class what ..."
- "It means that you suck at teaching" I give him one of my creepy smiles.
- "Close, but no" He goes back to stand next the window. "What about Andre's girlfriend?" He sucks his coconut. _Andre's__ girlfriend? . _Sikowatz eyes land on the girl, sittning next to Andre. I see the back of her head moving, as she looks between Andrea and Sikowatz. Everyone in the class is staring at her now.
- "Me? oh we are not dat..." The girl says.
- "What's your name?" Sikowatz interrupts her.
- "Tori Vega" She smile shyly. _So this is the girl that Sinjin posted on TheSlap. _Everyone in the school was talking about her yesterday.

Cat watched her video, over and over. I almost killed her.

"Aha! Vega. Lane told me about you" He nods his head. "So Tori!, do you know what Improv means?"

"Well .. Yes and No" She looks at Andre confused.

"What does that mean?"

"No" She admits.

"Okay, Improv ... acting without a script which means, the actor must makeup their own actions and dialogue as they perform the scene. Understood?"

"Uhm .. " She was about to ask something when Sikowatz interrupted her.

"Excellent!, Jade you're the first captain of the group today, choose your actors" He claps his hands twice.

_Time to torture the new girl, _I get up of my chair and stand in front of the class. "Let's see ... Cat, Beck, Robbie and ... Tori" all of them walk to the little stage, except for Tori. She looks surprised. "Come here dear, I won't bite". i tell her with my Lucy's voice.

Beck whispers in my ear, "Jade, don't. I know this tone" his breath is hot against my ear, _disgusting, _I hate when he do that. I glare at him and he steps back.

Tori looks at Andre, and he shrugs then gesture for her to go. And she does. She walks nervously to the stage, she locks her brown eyes with mine, and smiles. _Not for long. _

"Okay let's give them a place" Sikowatz says from behind me.

One of the girls in the back says "Home!". I think her name is Cassie.

"Home" Sikowatz writes on the whiteboard. _Very creative!. _ "Now we need a situation" He stands next to me and place his left hand under his chin.

"Shocking news!" Andre says.

"Andre, no one wants to see shocking nudes"

"News" Andre says again.

"Ha! well that's different" Sikowatz goes back and writes *shocking news*. _Great, that works with what I have in mind. _

"Why don't you and Beck go sleep on the floor" I say to Tori. They look at each other, and they lay on the floor like i told them to do

I pull Cat and Robbie by their wrists and tell them to sit on the floor. Then I whisper to them to pretend they are playing with toys. Then I walk, and stand behind the classroom's door waiting for

Sikowatz *Action*.

"Okay, at home, shocking news. And ... ACTION!"

I open the door and pretend to take off my coat. "Honey I'm home!" I shout. Then i spot Cat and Robbie on the floor, "Hello kids!" i greet them. Cat and Robbie stop playing and they run toward me. "Mommy you're home" Cat jumps to hug me, and Robbie knows better not to do the same. He stands awkwardly "Mommy we missed you!".

"I missed you too babies" I push Cat off me. "Where's Daddy?" I pat the top of their heads. _Gross._

"He's been sleeping all day" Cat says with a sad tone.

"Oh yeah? let's wake him up!" I make my way toward Beck and Tori, they are still pretending to be a sleep. So I pretend to open a door. "Honey, I'm home, Ahhh!" I gasp and cover my mouth with my hands like I'm shocked. Both Tori and Beck lift their heads to see what's going on.

"Interesting" Sikowatz claps his hands.

"Are you CHEATING on me?!" I take a step closer to Beck. He looks confused. "And while the kids are at HOME!".

Beck's looks at Tori horrified, "Babe, it's not like what you think" they both stand up, Beck tries to hold my hands.

"NO!" I push him away, fake tears in my eyes.

"Babe, you are making the kids cry" Beck tries again, but I push him again. Cat and Robbie are fake crying.

"I don't want you here anymore!" I scream at him, the I make my way to Tori. She looks scared "And you!, you home wrecker" I purs my lips and raise my hand back. "Jade, stop!" Andre warns me. I throw my hand forward as hard as I could, whipping it across Tori's face.

Suddenly the room is quiet, no one says anything. There's tears in Tori's eyes, she touchs her left cheek and winces. She looks at me with eyes wide open full of tears. _Maybe I over reacted with the slap. _

She runs out of the class.

"Not cool Jade" Andre follows after her. Beck nods his head agreeing with Andre. I scowl back at him.

"Jade, sit" Sikowatz orders me, and I do as he says. "Cat and Robbie, go call your classmates" They both run after Tori and Andre.

Beck sits on the chair next to me, he keeps giving me those weird looks. "You should apologies to her", he says. I ignore him and take out my scissor from the inside of my boot and i start cutting on my green hair extinction. "You are unbelievable!" he crosses his arms against his chest.

"And you are annoying!" I snap back.

"Jade!"

"What?!" I snap at Sikowatz. He holds his hand open. I roll my eyes and give him the scissor. He takes it and put it in his pocket. _Fuck, it's gonna smell like him now._

Beck is still staring at me. "You've got something to say?" i look at him.

"Why did you slap her? she's new here, and she is Andre's friend"

"First of all, i don't care if she is a friend of Andre. Second of all, we were *_acting*. _it's not my fault that she had to be a crying baby about it" i say. He frowns, then opens his mouth to talk but he gets interrupted. "We are heeere!" Cat comes through the door with Robbie, Andre and Tori.

"Okay, sit, sit" Sikowatz says.

Tori's looks pissed off, her left cheek is red and marked with my fingerprints. She narrows her eyes at me, and then sits in her seat. Andre hands her a can of soda, and she rest it against her cheek.

"What happened earlier was intense, but let's not do that again. I mean you Jade" Sikowatz place his hands on his hips.

"Can't promise" I smirk. Tori turns her head and glares at me. I glare back at her.

"Now, let's do some alphabetical improv. what is alphabetical improv? You ask? So I answer. It's when we give a letter to the first actor who speaks in the scene. If we used the letter *A* as an example, then the actor must make his first word start with the letter *A* Which might go something like ... "Sikowatz explains.

"Apples are falling out of my butt" Beck says.

"Lovely. Now the next actor who speaks must start his line with the next letter in the alphabet, In this case, *B*, So he might say .. " Sikowatz gesture for Andre to continue.

"Bring those apples, so that we may all enjoy the fresh fruit from Beck's butt"

"Charming, now, who want to lead the group?" Sikowatz claps his hands together.

"I do" Tori raise her hand.

"All right Tori, choose your actors" Sikowatz says and rests his body against one of the tables in the back.

She stands on the mini stage and her body faces us. "Okay, Cat, Beck and Jade" She calls. I frown at her. _She picked me?_

"Yeah, you" She points. _oh! this should be fun. _We all stand on the stage, waiting for Sikowatz instructions.

- "Okay, if you start your line with the wrong letter, you are out" Sikowatz say. "Robbie, give us a letter".
- "L" Rex answers.
- "Aww, I was gonna say L" Robbie exclaims.
- "Maybe you will someday, when you stop wetting your bed" Rex laughs. Robbie gasps.
- "You promised you won't tell anyone!" Robbie hisses.
- "Okay, so the scene can be about anything you want" Sikowatz says and we all nod our heads. "The first letter of the first line is L. Tori, action!"
- "Lazy beast, that's what you are!" She says to me. _oh! this one is looking for a fight._
- "Man, I wanna kill you right now!" I step closer to her. So now that there's only few inches between us.
- "No one is gonna die here today" Beck break us apart. I give him a death glare.
- "Totally!" Cat jumps.
- "Aggh! Cat, your line had to start with the letter O" Sikowatz cuts and gesture for her to get off the stage.
- "Oh! my life is the worst!" She slams her foot on the floor.
- "Too late for that. Here's a piece of candy"
- "Yaaay! I love candy" She runs to Sikowatz and takes the candy happily from him.
- "Tori the letter O to you"
- " \mbox{Uh} .. obviously, someone needs a shower" $\mbox{She looks}$ at $\mbox{me}\,.$
- "Pleaase, die!" I snap at her.
- "Quiet girls" Beck touchs both of our shoulders, I slap his hand off me.
- "Remind me why girls like you die alone" She smirks. _Oh you've gone too far._
- "Sure thing" I press on her left cheek. She flinches in pain.
- "That's enough Jade" Beck grabs my hand.
- "Up your nose, I see boogers" Tori points at my face.
- "Very clever" I turn around from her.
- "Wait! I think I broke my leg" Beck falls on the ground.

- "X-Rays are the only way to find out" She crawls next to him and touchs his leg.
- "You should keep your hands to yourself" I pull her hand away from him.
- "Uh .. Zebras!, I see zebras" Beck points behind me. "Where?!" Cat jumps, looking around excited.
- "Back to the letter A, Tori" Sikowatz says.
- "Apologize for what you did" She is referring to slapping her.
- "But red is a good color on you" I laugh.
- "Can someone help me to stand" Beck lift his hands.
- "Don't move! I will help you" She holds his hands and lifts him, and he smiles at her. I clench my hands angrily.
- "Eat Tacos!" I shout angrily at her. _Seriously Jade?! Tacos! that's the best you can do?_
- "Fix my leg, please?" He tells Tori.
- She kneels and pats his leg. "Go ahead, you can walk now".
- "Hey, why don't you jump off a cliff and die!" I lunge forward at her. She doesn't step back.
- "Hey hey" Beck pulls me to the back.
- "Aggh! Beck you out!, your line had to start with I" Sikowatz says and gesture for Beck to sit. "Girls, the letter I, and action!"
- "I think you are jealous" She folds her arms.
- "Jealous? of what?" I fold my arms also. I try my best to look at her in a disgust way. but I fail, instead, I stare and scan her body with my eyes. _She has a nice body, but I'm not jealous._
- "Keep your eyes up" She smirks, when our eyes meet.
- "Listen bitch ... " I hiss. I feel heat burning my body. "Jade" Sikowatz warns. Cat is covering her ears with her hands.
- "Made you angry, did I?"
- "Shut up .. NO! WAIT!" I realize now that i started with the wrong letter.
- "Sorry Jade, you had to start with the letter ... "
- "N! I KNOW!" I glare at Tori and walk back to my chair. _I can't believe what just happened!_
- "Good job, Tori" He claps for her. She looked stunned at first, then she smiles shyly, and as she was about to sit, the bell rang announcing launch's break.

- "Yaaaay! launch!" Cat claps her hands happily.
- "Class dismissed" Sikowatz tells us to leave. We all gather our stuff and head to the door. "Tori, stay, i want to talk to you about something" She stays in her seat.
- "See you there" Andre says to her and follows Beck. I can't believe this girl! i humiliated her and she came back and humiliated me!. No one treats me like that!. _I should've slapped her harder._
- I walk out the class and head to my locker, i take some money out of my bag and put it in my pocket, then i put the bag in my locker. I reach for my scissor, but i can't seem to find it. _Shit! it's with Sikowatz.
- I shut my locker, then i head back to class, i find Tori in the same exact place that i left her. She has papers in her hands, and talking with Sikowatz. I enter the classroom and stand in front Sikowatz.
- "The scissor" I open my hand. Tori stops talking. She has a confused look written all over her face. Sikowatz reaches for his pocket and he hands me the scissor. "That's all Tori, you can go eat now" Sikowatz says to her.
- I take the scissor, and put it inside my boot. "Thank you" She smiles at him. Then she stares at where i hid my scissor.
- I start walking out of the class, toward the cafeteria when i hear someone calls behind me.
- "Jade, Jade, wait a second" Someone touchs my shoulder, i turn around angrily. It's Tori fucking Vega.
- "NEVER touch me, Vega!" I turn and keep walking. She follows after me. "Wait! i want to talk to you about something" She jogs beside me, then stop in front of me. _What's the deal with this freak!_
- "Get off my way" i hiss.
- "Listen, i know we started in a bad way, with the slap and \dots " I walk past her, leaving her talking alone. _Is she really serious?.
- _"_We were acting!" I shout behind me. She jogs beside me again. "I know, but ... "
- "I'm not apologizing"
- "I'm not asking for one" She stops in front of me AGAIN. This girl has a death wish, i swear. She was about to touch my arm, but then changed her mind.
- "What do you want then, Vega?" i sigh and i roll my eyes.
- "To be friends, maybe?" She pleads with her brown eyes.
- "What makes you think i want to be your friend?" I look at her from head to toe. She frown, her mouth open and close multiple times. I

chuckle and leave her standing alone.

* * *

>After buying my launch, I make my way to our usual table, the weather today is nice, i like how the sun is warm against my bare shoulders. I notice Robbie is waving to me to join them on the table, he's never done that. I ignore him and keep walking to the direction of the table, when i hear her name is being called, i stop. That moron boy wasn't waving for me, he was waving for Vega!. I turn around and i see her going to the same direction i was going. She passes by me and gives me0 a small smile, then her mouth keeps in a closed straight line. She's not scared of me. She's the first person to ever walk on Hollywood Arts floor and doesn't seem to be afraid of me. I scowl and follow her.>

"Excuse me? what do you think you are doing?" I ask her as i put my launch on the table between Beck and Cat. She looks at me and then looks at Andre, then she looks at me again.

"Babe, chill" Beck touches my wrist.

"Never call me that, we are NOT together" He looks down on his launch, he seems hurt. Beck is a nice guy, but sometimes he thinks that he can control me. He can never control me, no one will.

"Jade, she's my friend" Andre's eyes plead for me to let her sit.

"She's my new friend" Cat pouts, i know sometimes i act tough, but i can't resist when Cat do that. She looks like a lost puppy with that pout.

I roll my eyes and sigh. "Whatever" i say, and sit between Beck and Cat.

Cat huggs Vega when she sits next to her on the other side. Vega blushes and hugs her back, then she nods her head toward me and smiles, her smiles disappears when i scowl at her.

Becks sits uncomfortably next to me, he has a sad smile on his face. A few strands of his perfect hair falls to the side of his face, covering his good side. He sighs and pushes his hair back. I ignore him and start on my food.

Robbie start asking Tori about her life and personal stuff. Like, Where does she live? How many siblings she has? How did she meet Andre? What school did she transform from?. She looked a little uncomfortable when he asked her about her old school, then Rex opened its plastic mouth, asking her for her phone number, i stopped listening when *it* opened its mouth. I pulled my phone from my pocket to see if i have got any new messages. There's only one, and it's from Aunt Terry, asking if am gonna pick up her dwarf. I type a quick reply and send it.

I stare at the last text and sigh, "Girl" (11:00 AM). My hands start typing without realizing.

"**Where did you vanish?**" (12:17 PM) i wait for about a minute and a half, the boys are arguing about something, Cat is stuffing candies

- again in her bra, Vega is staring at Cat's chest, confused. I roll my eyes and type again.
- "**Were you hoping for a guy, not a girl?**" (12:19 PM) i rest my phone on the table and stare at it, then i snatch it when it lights.
- "No, i wasn't hoping for a guy" (12:19 PM)
- "It's just feels weird to text a someone, who threatened to find me and kill me this morning" (12:20 PM)
- "**Don't worry, i like to know my victims first before start planning on killing them**" (12:20 PM) I smirk.
- "Woah. Should i change my number?, are you gonna find me at night, torture me then kill me?" (12:21 PM) i chuckle.
- "**I was thinking more like wait till you wake ,then i kill you. But your way works too :) **" (12:22 PM)
- "You are teasing me again. Aren't you?" (12:22 PM)
- "**What can i say?, it's fun. After all, you are the one who asked for *sex* after few minutes of texting.**" (12:23 PM)
- "OH MY GOD!, You know i didn't mean it like THAT!" (12:23 PM) A big smile creep its way to my face.
- "Haha! Tori, your cheeks are so red. it's looks like my hair" Cat laughs, cupping Tori's face in her hands. Vega blushes more and hides her phone. Everyone at the table is looking at her now. I get back to texting.
- "**Still funny, though :D **" (12:25 PM)
- "Can't let it go, can you?" (12:25 PM)
- "**Never**" (12:25 PM)
- I grin at the texts we just exchanged, i have never joked with someone like this before. If i wanted to, i would end up saying something mean and hurtful. But this time, i don't know. It's just different.
- "Jade, can we talk in private?" I look up from my phone. Beck has a weird look on his face. I sigh, _i wonder what its about_. I nod and put my phone back in my pocket. I leave Cat fighting with Rex and Robbie. Something about Rex never hitting on her. Andre and Tori are busy with their phones.
- Beck and i walk in silence to the janitor's closet, it's our special place to make out. We have never done anything more than that. I have known Beck for four years now. We auditioned together for the school, he's been always by my side at my worst times. Especially, when its my Mum's anniversary, he listens to me and holds me when i need a friend. My mother passed away when i was 10, she died in a car crash. I was with her. I survived, she didn't.
- She's the one who encouraged me to go to my acting classes, we also

planned on joining Hollywood Arts when i grow up. She used to teach music here in Hollywood Arts. She taught me how to play the guitar, and helped me with my singing. She planned everything. We were supposed to ride to school together in the morning, attend her class. She even told me about Sikowatz, and his weird way of teaching.

My father was always out of the picture. I hardly saw him at that time, he would visit us once a month, stays for one night and leave the next day, without saying goodbye. I stopped calling him Dad, after my mother's death. I just call him Mr. West now.

He sent me to my aunt Terry, to stay with her after the funeral. Aunt Terry isn't bad, she's divorced, and has an 8 years old daughter, Brittney. I swear, this girl is a pain in the ass. Aunt Terry treats me like a daughter. She gave me one of the biggest rooms in the house, she lets me do whatever i want, she even bought me a car. She's so much like my Mum, she has the same smile. It's just a reminder everyday of my mother. She's the kind of women who likes to show her affection. I'm never like that. I'm always cold toward her, and toward that little dwarf.

We reach the janitor's closet and step inside. Beck closes the door behind him, rests his back against it, close his eyes and sighs. I sit on the small table, waiting for him to speak. He finally opens his eyes and i raise my eyebrows at him.

"Well you wanted to talk, so talk" I folds my hands. He pushes his hair to the back in frustration, and sighs again.

"I hate this" He gesture between us, upset.

"What do you mean?" I frown.

"I want us to go on a date, we have been together for months now. But you keep saying we are not together" He sighs again, comes closer to me, holds my hands and looks directly into my eyes. I shift uncomfortably in my place, his eyes gaze at me. "I just .."

"Listen, Just because we kiss from time to time, that doesn't mean we are together" i pull my hands away from him. "I don't want to be in a relationship" His puts his hands in his pockets and looks away from me.

"Why?" He has a frown on his face. I don't say anything. I enjoy kissing him, touching his hair and his abs. But i only like him as a friend, i don't want anything more.

"Jade, answer me" His eyes begs for me.

"I don't know" I lie. We are both standing face to face now.

"You don't know?, Jade, that's not an answer. Why are you acting like this? you get jealous whenever a girl talks to me, this has to count for something" He looks confused.

I groan. "No, i do not get jealous"

"Yes, you do" I roll my eyes, "What is it?" He crosses his arms against his chest.

"You are my bestfriend, Beck. It's easier like this" I shrug.

"Easier?" He raises his eyebrows. "Jade, i have feeling, you know. You can't just use me like that!" He shouts, i don't think i ever saw him this upset before.

"What do you want me to do?!" I shout back at him.

"Simple. Just be my girlfriend!" Few strands of his hair fall to the side.

"I don't want to!" I snap.

"FINE!"

"FINE!"

He leaves me alone standing alone in the janitor's closet, breathing heavily. I put few strands of my hair behind my ear, and breath slowly. _This is stupid._

I check the time on my phone, and realize that my next class will start in 5 minutes. I also notice i have an unread text, so i open it.

"I think i like you this way. This morning you were scary" (12:32 PM) I smile, I forgot about the fight that i just had with Beck seconds ago. I get out, and make my way to the locker, typing.

"**Next time, ** **I will make sure to drink my coffee before texting you;) **" (12:55 PM)

I open my locker, and search for my guitar Pick in my bag. I find it. It's my mother's, it's one of the few things that keeps me closer to her. It has her last name on it, written in black. Jackie Hall.

I feel my phone vibrate in my pocket, i pull it and open the text.

"Wait. *Next time*? you're planning on texting me again? that's so cute :D" (12:56 PM)

My eyes widen, i don't remember typing *next time*. _Shit_ _. _I put my mum's Pick in my pocket and start typing quickly.

"**NO!**" (12:56 PM)

"**Shut up, gotta run. Bye**" (12:57 PM)

"Hmm, okay. Goodbye then" (12:57 PM)

I take my time walking to the class, and i make it in time. I walk through the music class, there's only 8 kids in here, one of them is sitting in my favorite seat in the front, so i give him my famous death glare, and he jumps off quickly, out of my way. I smirk and sit happily.

Mrs. Graham, comes through the door, she places her bag on the table and start fumbling with it, searching for something. This could've

been my Mum standing there. With her perfect long black hair, and blue eyes like the ocean. She would write something on the board then turn around to face me, and smile brightly at me. Everyone would have loved her. But no one would get know how amazing she is. Because she is dead.

* * *

>I finish school without seeing Beck at all, I thought he might come see me, or talk to me. But our paths never crossed after our fight. He's angry with me, because I don't want to be his girlfriend. I'm aware of that, but having him as a boyfriend will complicate our friendship. I like how easy and simple it is. He wants more. I don't.

I drive to the little dwarf's school, to pick her up. I don't usually do that, unless aunty Tee has an important meeting. I park close to the school and wait in the car for Brittney to get out of the school.

I hate waiting, it feels like hours before that dwarf comes out running around with her bestfriend Jimmy. Her blonde curly hair, runs wildly with her. Jimmy catches the dwarf and then she start running after him. I get out of my car seat, and head to them. There's kids everywhere, I try to pass by them without touching any of them.

Brittney and Jimmy stop running, panting. Both of their faces fall as soon as they see me. _Yup I have that effect on people._

"Why are you here?" She frowns, and place her hands on her hips.

"Get in the car" I grab her by the back of her back bag and drag her to the car. She tries freeing herself from my grip, she's really strong for a little girl.

"Where's mommy?" She asks after pushing her inside the car in the back. "She has a meeting" I close the door in her face and open the door to my seat. I get glimpse of the dwarf in the mirror, she's waving for her friend a goodbye. I drive the car away from the school.

Brittney sits in silence in the back. She hates it when i pick her up from the school, we both hate it. I turn on the radio, her eyes lights up when Let It Go start playing. "I love this song!" she jumps in her seat.

"I don't" She sits back in her seat when i change the station. It takes me about 5 minutes until i find a good song. We listen to Bon Jovi, and I sing along with him. i look at the dwarf, she is frowning and staring outside the window, but her feet are dancing along to the beat.

We arrive at the house after 20 minutes, the little dwarf jumps out of the car and slams the door hard, _that little ...,_ i follow after her and head inside the house and throw myself on the big couch in the living room. Brittney runs around the house, turning on the lights, then she throws her back bag across the floor and runs to the kitchen. I hear the fridge door opens and closes, then Brittney comes

out, holding a box of Pizza.

She shakes it and put it on my lap, I glare at her, she glares back.

"WHAT?!" I throw the box on the floor.

"I'm starving!" She whines, and slams her foot on the floor.

"So ... " I smack her head lightly. She groans, and picks up the Pizza.

"So, I want Pizza!"

"Just put it in the microwave, dwarf!" I shout.

"You put it" She hands me the box.

"No"

"Please!"

"No"

"Jade .."

"No"

"Come on!" She whines again.

"No" I smile smugly.

"UGH!" She sits on the big couch, next to my legs. I push her off.

"No"

"JADE!" Her butt slams the ground.

"No"

"Please, Jade!"

"No"

"I can't reach the microwave, OKAY?!, it's too high!" She pouts.

"No, it's not high. You're just short, dwarf!" I take the box from her and go the kitchen. I'm not doing this because of her. I'm doing this because I'm hungry too.

I pull the pizza out of the box, and put it in the microwave, set the timer and turn it on. Brittney comes and waits patiently. I pull my phone to check if Beck texted, but there's nothing from him.

Ding.

I take the pizza out, and sit it on the table. Brittney runs and sits

on one of the chairs. I do the same. We keep eating in silence as i check my Slap page. Apparently, Tori fuking Vega, joined the Slap. Andre is telling everyone to follow her. _No fucking way_.

I go through her page out of curiosity. She has 100 followers so far, and she only posted once today. Something about today, being the weirdest day of her life. I don't know why I hated her immediately. I think I felt a little jealousy. I don't know.

And the fact that Beck kept on defending her during Sikowatz class, made me more angrier. Speaking of Beck, I check his page, there's nothing new. That's weird, he usually posts all the time.

"I'm home" Aunt Terry's voice rings through the house. I realize that I have been sitting here for almost an hour, just going through my phone. I look up to the chair across from me and it's empty. Did I really not notice the dwarf leaving the kitchen?

Not that I care.

"Mommy!" I hear Brittney's voice echoing from the living room, followed by the TV's sound. I get up from my chair and lean on the counter so I can see them. Brittney's hands are wrapped around Aunty Tee's neck, they're both giggling, she lifts the dwarf and of the ground and kisses her on the cheeks. Twice. I hate that. Mum used to do that all the time, and she wouldn't stop until i smile.

I miss her kisses.

"Hey honey" I was lost in my own thought, i didn't notice when Aunty Tee came closer to me. Then i feel her lips on my cheek, i push away from her and wipe my kissed cheek. "I told you not to do that!" I keep on wiping my cheek till it hurts.

"oh! I'm sorry dear" I can hear the hurt in her voice.

She reminds me so much of Mum. The sparkling blue ocean eyes, her smile, the wavy hair.

"Whatever, I'm going to my room" I take my eyes away from her and walk to the direction of the stairs. "But it's weekend, don't you wanna hang out with Beck and your friends?" She asks from behind me.

"No" I say without looking at her, and walk up the stairs to my room. I immediately, grab my Mum's guitar, and play every song I know. after getting bored, i undress myself and put on some shorts and a cami. I throw myself on my bed and watch my favorite movie, The Scissoring.

* * *

>I woke up 2 times at night, because of Beck, he called me twice and i ignored him before finally deciding on muting my phone. I was so sleepy, i didn't feel like talking to him and argue. So ignoring him was the best choice.

The third time i wake up, it wasn't because of my phone, i made sure it was mute. I wake up, because there's someone on my bed, jumping. I pull my pillow over my head, trying to shake off the movement, and

get more sleep. It doesn't stop. Without hesitation, I push whosever on my bed with my feet. I hear a thud, and the jumping stops.

"Ouch! Jade!"

I pull my head out of the cover, to come face to face with a red haired figure. Cat.

"What are you doing in my room?!" I snap at her. She flinches and stands up, rubbing her butt as well. "Aunty Tee, let me in" She sits on my bed. Of course she let her in, this is not the first time.

"Ugh! get out!" I push her off again. "Ouch!" I pull the covers over my head, and pray the lord she would leave. I think she did, cuz I don't hear anyone in my room. I lay in my bed, trying to close my eyes and sleep. but no such thing happened. I turn to my other side, still no sleep.

"Mommy says you have to wak..." I hit the dwarf's face with my pillow before she finishes her sentence. She gives me the middle finger and runs before I can react. I sigh, and decide it's time to get up. I search for my phone and find it on the floor, beside my bed. I guess it fell when Cat was jumping. I look at the time, it's 11:54 AM.

I have 5 missed calls from Beck, 2 message and 3 missed calls from Cat.

Cat must have called me to ask if she can come over, I told her countless times to never call, she can come over whenever she wanted. It doesn't matter anymore, since she is here now. I decide to check the messages. I felt disappointed when I realize they are from Beck.

"_Can I call you now?" $_$ -Beck (8:12 AM) $_$ Who wakes up at 8 o'clock on a Saturday? $_$ I read the second message.

"_I think we should meet and talk" _-Beck (10:04 AM) Why does he always want to talk?

I don't text him back, instead of that, I leave my phone and go to shower. I let the hot water relax my muscles. After spending 20 minutes showring, I change, take my phone with me, and head downstairs. Cat and Brittney are fighting over the TV's remote on the big couch, Cat wants to watch SpongeBob and Brittney wants Tom and Jerry. Brittney wins, and Cat pouts. I quickly turn my head away from them.

I walk to the kitchen and I find aunty Terry sitting on a chair, dinking coffee, and reading a newspaper. Her eyes lights up when she sees me. "Slept well?" she asks. I nod.

I pour coffee for me and sit across from her, and drink my coffee in silence. Every now and then, her eyes keep shifting back and forth between me and the newspaper. I pretend that I haven't seen her and pull my phone when it rings, I sigh and answer.

INCOMING CALL ...

_"What?" _I answer cruelly. Aunty Terry eyes me curiously.

- _"Why did you ignore my texts and phone calls?" _he says on the other line.
- _"I was NOT ignoring you, I was sleeping" _I narrow my eyes, even though he can't see me. Aunty Tee smiles and continues reading her paper.

He sighs, he knows that I ignored his calls.

- _"What do you want?" _I ask firmly.
- _"The boys and I, are thinking about going to __Karaoke Dokie. Meet us there, I want to talk to you" _there's something in his voice tone that I don't like.
- _"About what? _I ask quickly. He sighs again.
- _"Just meet us there?" _
- _"Fine" _I roll my eyes, and hang up. I talk a big gulp of my coffee. The taste of the coffee warms my body.
- "Everything is okay, dear?" Aunty Tee asks. I nod, as she takes a sip of her coffee also.
- "I'm going out" I inform her and she nods. I like that about Aunty Tee, she trusts me. She lets me go anywhere i want, whenever i want. I get up and snatch my car keys from the counter, and i make my way toward where Cat is sitting. She has her hands in her lap peacefully, as she is watching the TV with excitement.
- "Get up, we're going out" I say from behind her. She titles her head to the side, eyes still on the screen. "Where?" she asks.
- "Karaoke Dokie" I say again, as i walk to the door. She stands up immediately, and follows me. It's her favorite place.
- "What's that? i wanna come" Brittney stands as well and follows.
- "No dwarfs allowed!" I call behind me, Cat chuckles at the word _dwarfs. _Brittney frowns, and gives me the middle finger. Her mum sees her.
- "BRITTNEY!" Aunty Tee yells. I laugh and open the front door and for Cat to get out. Before i close it, i give the dwarf the middle finger as well, without her mum seeing me. Brittney gasps, and i close the door.

* * *

>Car and i walk inside Karaoke Dokie, there's a lot of teenagers, some of them are sitting and chatting, some are sittning and watching a guy on stage singing. The guy isn't awful though, he has a nice voice, there's 3 girls cheering for him, he winks at them, and they literally scream.

We spot Andre and Robbie sitting on a table, waiting. We walk to them. "Hii" Cat greets them, and I nod my head toward them.

- "Hey, little Red" Andre says and hugs her. He nods his head to me. "Hey Jade" We sit across from them.
- "Hi Cat" Robbie smiles hopelessly at her. She notice him, folds her arms and turn her head away from him. "I'm not talking to you" she says to him.
- "What? why?" his brows knot in confusion. He looks at Rex, the puppet shrugs.
- "Your puppet is always mean to me" She still not looking at him.
- "Don't call him a puppet!, that's an offensive term" Robbie covers Rex ears. I leave them arguing, when I notice Beck isn't here.
- "Where's Beck?" I adress Andre. He looks up from his phone.
- "I called him 5 minutes ago, he should be here soon" He says and I nod. The guy who was singing on stage, finished. And now a girl is climbing the stage for her turn.
- "Guys!, when are we going to order?" Tori whines, coming out of the restroom. "When Beck gets here" Andre answers her.
- "What is she doing here?" I yell, everyone in the restaurant is looking at me, Tori's face is mixed with confusion and fear.
- "Umm .. Cat and Andre invited me" Tori looks at them hesitated. I glare at them, they both look away from me. I look back at Vega. She smiles nervously.
- "Tori, sit with me" Cat whispers to Tori. Vega blushes and sits happily next to her and Robbie, without hesitation.

"CAT?!"

- "What? I like Tori, she's funny" Cat pouts, Vega's cheeks turn bright red. I sigh and let it go. They both exchange conversation about school and music. Somehow their conversation changes to Tom and Jerry. Cat is telling Tori about an episode she watched today, in my house. Vega is nodding along with her and laughs hard when Cat tries to explain how Tom's face exploded, the weird thing that Vega isn't laughing at Cat, she's laughing with her. I haven't realized I was staring at her until Vega's eyes meet mine. I look away quickly.
- "Um .. Beck is taking too long" I pull my phone to call him.
- "I'm here" Beck says from behind me, He greets us and sit with us, he avoids my eyes and grabs his menu. "So do you guys know what you want to order?" he's still avoiding me.
- "Yeah, aha" Everyone says. He motion for the waiter to come and take our orders. Everyone order burger. The girl who was singing on stage, finishes.
- "Please welcome on stage, Cat Valentine and Tori Vega!" The DJ exclaims on the mic, and claps his hands.

"What! No!" Tori shakes her head, refusing to stand up. Cat is pulling her to get up.

"Cmon Tori, Jade and i sing here all the time, it will be fun" Cat is struggling with pulling the taller girl to stand, I sigh and push Vega off her chair with my leg. She falls to the ground, Cat drags her to the stage easily now. The DJ guy, hands them the mics and asks what song they will be singing. Vega tries to run, but the guy is quickly to react and stops her. We sit waiting for them to start. Cat pouts, and Tori surrender and chooses a song.

"Okay, Cat and Tori will be singing Shake it Off by Taylor Swift" The DJ guy, says happily on the mic. Everyone claps for them. Tori sighs and nods to Cat. And the music starts. The crowd goes crazy when Tori sings the first verse. _She has a nice voice._ Cat and Tori start shaking their butt to the beat, everyone is cheering for them and clapping, hell even I am clapping. _For Cat, not Vega._

They dance around the restaurant and sing loudly and happily, Vega moves her hips when Cat sings the part shake it off, shake it off. Beck whistles for her, and Andre cheers louder. They end the song, and hug.

"That was AMAZING!" Tori exclaims when she and Cat return to the table, they are both panting.

"I told you it was fun" Cat laughs. They sit back on their seats, the waiter comes with our food, and place our burgers on the table. We start eating as soon as the waiter leaves us. All of us are enjoying our food, then two guys approaches our table.

"That was an incredible performance girls" The shorter guy addresses Cat and Tori, they smile at them.

" .. anks!" Tori says, with a mouth full of food. Cat nods her head agreeing with her. The girls continue eating, but the guys don't leave.

"So, how about you give us a private performance?" This time the tall guy says, winking, biting his lower lip. Tori swallows her bite in disgust. "Private?" Cat asks in confusion. Tori shakes her head at Cat.

"No, thank you" Tori says in a firm tone, her eyes are burning.

"Oh come on" The short guy says, he walk toward Cat and winks.

"The girl said no" I stand before him, blocking his way. I pull my scissor from my boot, and point it directly to his chest. The taller guy laughs. "You think a scissor will hurt us?" He tells me.

"Maybe you should ask the last guy I used it on him. oh wait, he's dead" I point my scissor at the taller one now. He laughs, and looks between me and the girls. "Okay, which one of them is your girlfriend?" He asks me, smirking. I press the top of the scissor to his chest, angrily. Both of Beck and Andre stand next to me.

"Enough!" Beck says. He and Andre step closer to the guys, clenching their hands, ready to fight.

"Okay, okay!" The guys step back in fear, and leave. _Those horny basterds_.

We sit back in our seats and eat in silence, "Thanks guys" Tori says to us after awhile. "You're welcome" The boys say, smiling.

"Blah blah" I say, rolling my eyes. After we finish eating, Andre suggests to go to the movies.

"I'm banned from the movies" I inform them, as I eat the last of my fries. Vega looks at me in confusion.

"Why are you banned from the movies?" She asks me.

"She threw her shoes at the screen" Beck answers her, still avoiding looking at me.

"And my shoes too" Cat says sadly.

"Why would you do that?" She asks again, confused.

"It was a stupid movie" I shrug my shoulders, she looks at me oddly, and the corner of her mouth lifts in a smile. "Well, we can go to my place and hang" She says in a hopeful tone. Everyone agrees. We collect our stuff and leave money for our meals.

As we walk to the parking lot, two girls pass us and wink at Beck, and he flashes them a smile. They run away, blushing and giggling. Beck notices me glaring at him, he shrugs innocently. He's trying to make me jealous. He still hasn't told me why he wanted to talk to me about.

Cat and Tori, are walking side by side, laughing at something Tori said. I hate how she quickly fitted in the gang, everyone seems to like her. There's something weird about her, I just can't put my fingers on it. _I have to find out what it is._

* * *

>"What are you doing in my room?"

I turn my head around at the sound of Vega, behind me. I have been in her room for almost fifteen minutes, looking around for something on her, all I found is an ugly stuffed bear, collection of old CDs, dirty clothes, and lots of pictures of her and a girl, hanging on her mirror. I was about to look at the pictures, when she found me, her voice startled me.

"Nothing, just looking around" I say as I look closely to the pictures. She is smiling in all of them, her hands are wrapped around a blonde girl.

"Why?" She's standing by the door, her brows furrow, confused.

"Mmm ... deciding if you're worthy of killing" I grab the photo of her, where she's sitting on a bench with the blonde girl, eating cotton candy.

"W-what?" She stumbles, her eyes widen.

- "Relax. There's no fun in killing you. Your room is lame, and you're boring and whiny, it's just killes the mood. But you have a lot of stuff here" There's another one. This one, the blonde girl is sitting behind Vega, riding a bike.
- "Thank you, I guess" She walks closer to me.
- "Who is this?" I hold one of the picture, for her to see. She looks closely and her eyes suddenly become clouded.
- "Uhm, her name is Amy, w-we were bestfriends, in um .. in my old school" She shifts in her place, uncomfortable.
- "What happened?" Suddenly becoming interested in this Amy girl.
- "We grew apart" She snatches the pictures and hides them in a drawer. Her head is low, and she is breathing slowly.
- "Aha" I back away, and kneel down to the ground beside the bed, to search if she has anything there. I see a small black box, right under there. I pull it toward me, to open it. I catch a glimpse of a black leather notebook and a pen. But soon to be looking at my hands.
- "Hey! that's private!" She snatches the box out of my hands, her eyes are burning with fire. She hugs the box, tightly to her chest. _Seems important to her, I have to get my hands on that box._
- "I just want to see what's in it" I take a step toward her, she takes two steps back. Her knuckles turn white around that box.

"No!"

"FINE!"

I get out of the door, slamming the door hard behind me. Trina comes out of her bedroom, dressed in a purple pajamas, her hair is messy, and she has an angry expression on her face.

"What heck was .., Jade? what are you doing here? wait, Is Beck here? Oh my god!, I have to change!" She goes inside her room and shuts it. _Crazy. _

I walk down the stairs, everyone is sitting, watching a movie and drinking a pink drink. Beck looks up from his seat when I make it to the finale stair. His eyes turn back to the screen immediately. _What the ..._

- "Hey! stand up" I tell him.
- "Why?" He asks, not moving from his spot on the couch.
- "Shhh! we are watching a movie" Robbie tells us. I throw a pillow on his face.
- "Because you told me you wanted to talk, and still, you haven't said a word to me, nor made an eye contact at me all day" I place my hands on my hips. He sighs and nods.

"Let's talk outside" He stands, and motions for me to follow him outside Vega's house. Cat winks at me. _She thinks we are going to make out. _But I know Beck really well, when he says he wants to talk, it means either he wants to argue or tells me something about his family.

We stand in the Vega's doorway, Beck paces around me, sighing every now and then. He's making me dizzy. "Well! talk" I snap. He stops, looks directly in my eyes for the first time this day.

"I can't do it"

"Do what?" I have no idea what he's talking about.

"This thing, friends with benefits" He lowers his eyes to the ground.

oh, he means that.

"I'm tired of this argument, Beck" I sigh.

"I want us to be more than friends, Jade" His eyes plead with me.

_ Here we go again._

"I already told you, I don't want to. I'm not the girlfriend type" He sighs in frustration.

"That's bullshit, Jade!" His eyebrows furrow. "Are you scared? is that why?" He asks.

"What! NO!, I just don't want to complicate things between us! why can't you understand that?" He's my bestfriend, he should understand me, and respect my whishes. isn't that what bestfriends are for?

Beck keeps head hang lowly, staring at his feet. A small breeze whips his hair, to cover his perfect face. He runs his fingers through his hair, and looks at me with an expression hard to read.

"I have feelings for you, Jade"

"Oh"

"Do you feel the same?"

Do I?

I haven't thought about it. All I know is that I enjoy hanging out with him, and he's been with me through everything. Do I want more?

"I don't know" It came out as a whisper, I'm not sure if he heard me.

"Okay ... " He turns his back to me.

"Beck?"

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"Yeah?" He turns immediately.

"I d-do care .., as a friend"

"I know" He smiles weakly and heads inside the house.

* * *

><strong>If you guys are wondering how aunt Terry and Brittney looks like ... here's how I imagined them:<strong>

**Aunt Terry: Jodi Lyn O'keefe , and yes, she is Jade's mother sister. **

**Brittney: Giselle Eisenberg.**

**Please review and let me know what you think:)**

End file.
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